



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire

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MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

NASHUA MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL WEAPONS OFFENSE

Re: United States v. Randall Thompson

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Nashua Police Chief Timothy Hefferan announce that Randall Thompson, 57, of Nashua, New Hampshire was sentenced on February 1, 2006 on federal weapons charges.

On September 2, 2005, THOMPSON entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Paul Barbadoro to charges arising from his February 15, 2004 arrest for firearm possession. Under a binding plea agreement, THOMPSON will receive a four-year sentence of imprisonment, followed by a three-year period of supervised release, during which his behavior will be monitored and supervised by the U.S. Probation Office.

At today's sentencing, Judge Barbadoro imposed a sentence of four years imprisonment followed by a three-year period of supervised release during which THOMPSON's behavior will be monitored by the U.S. Department of Probation.

An affidavit in support of a Criminal Complaint issued by Magistrate Judge Muirhead alleges that THOMPSON, who was previously convicted of several drug distribution felonies, illegally possessed a handgun and ammunition when a Nashua patrolman pulled him over in his vehicle in downtown Nashua on February 15, 2004.

The case against THOMPSON is part of the Department of Justice's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" (PSN) initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a federal program to reduce gun violence in New Hampshire by aggressive investigation and prosecution of firearm offenders, education of the public and training of law enforcement officers about firearms laws.

— M O R E —

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: “This case exemplifies this Office’s commitment to aggressive prosecution of the federal firearms laws as mandated by DOJ’s “Project Safe Neighborhoods” initiative. Keeping firearms out of the hands of convicted felons is one of our main objectives. This office will continue to vigorously enforce the federal firearms laws as we continue to execute the many components of Project Safe Neighborhoods in the District of New Hampshire.”

The charges resulted from an investigation conducted by the Nashua Police Department with assistance from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by First Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante.

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